

less dangerous but there is always risk. I appreciate that Ukraine's efforts at enhancing its economy and modernizing its industrial structures has not been without setbacks. However, I am troubled by the fact that this terrible incident is not an isolated one.

Mr. Speaker, Ukraine's mines have one of the highest accident rates in the world due to poor maintenance and neglect of safety regulations. This accident comes a year after a gas explosion killed at least 50 miners in Donetsk and two years after 80 miners died in another underground mining explosion. More than 3,700 miners have died since Ukraine's independence from the Soviet Union in 1991. At this time of reflection, it is my sincere hope that this terrible incident marks a turning point for Ukraine and the Ukrainian government takes substantial steps to close the roughly 200 mines that the World Bank rates as highly prone to methane blasts.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my condolences to the victims' families in Ukraine, and offer my sorrow and sympathy to the people of Ukraine for this shocking tragedy that resulted in thirty-five deaths and my sincerest hope for real reforms in the Ukrainian mining industry.

RECOGNIZING THE PLANNED PARENTHOOD LOS ANGELES PROMOTORAS COMUNITARIAS TRAINING PROGRAM

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today to honor the 10th anniversary of the Planned Parenthood Los Angeles Promotoras Comunitarias Training Program.

This innovative community outreach program started in 1991 to help promote family planning education programs in Latino communities by training women within the community to do the outreach. This is important because it helps spread the message of family planning in a culturally sensitive manner.

Not only did the program help spread much-needed information about family planning methods, it also instilled in the women who became Promotoras a sense of pride and helped them develop critical life skills. By giving their families, friends and neighbors vital health care information and then facilitating access to gynecological health care, Promotoras are empowering women to advocate for their own health care. In return, these dedicated women were able to develop job skills, communication methods and leadership traits.

In short, the Promotoras program has helped thousands of women in my area learn about gynecological care and domestic violence prevention. I urge all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable organization.

CARLTON REESE, MUSIC DIRECTOR OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

HON. EARL F. HILLIARD

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. HILLIARD. Mr. Speaker, I wish to commemorate the life of Carlton Reese today. Professor Reese led the Freedom Choir in Birmingham during the days of struggle in the 1960's and continued to lead it to his death this month. He provided the soul to the movement—without him the struggle might have failed or fallen into violence and disorder.

He was the original writer of the great anthem of the movement, "We Shall Overcome," now one of the most well known songs in the world and sung everywhere that people are struggling for freedom. It has been sung in the freedom rallies in Chile, in democratic rallies in Turkey and in the bomb shelters of Hanoi. In this song, Professor Reese left a permanent legacy of freedom, equality, peace and hope for all to come.

At the tender age of 17, Rev. Fred Shuttlesworth asked him to be the music director of the Alabama Christian Movement for Human Rights, which organized and directed the demonstrations in Birmingham. It was his music that defined the movement and its spirit. Some of that music can be found on the Smithsonian Institute's CD, "Voices of the Civil Rights Movement."

When he graduated from Miles College in the '60s with a teaching degree, he was blacklisted by the Birmingham School system, and had to go to Tupelo, Mississippi to begin his career as a teacher. The Birmingham school system said that they did not want teachers who had been in jail—even if imprisoned for their commitment to freedom.

Upon returning to Alabama to teach in the Shelby County schools, South of Birmingham, he became Minister of Music at the New Bethlehem Baptist Church in Dolomite, where he served for over 40 years, turning down positions with many of the great gospel churches throughout the nation. This humble giant of freedom and music also served as a Deacon in the church, Religious Education Consultant, Youth Staff Worker, Advisor to the Senior Citizens Program and Financial Planner for the building fund.

Upon returning to Birmingham, he reorganized the Freedom Choir, which later took the name of the Sacred and Heritage Singers. Using this as a base, he became the Music Director for the City-Wide Unity Breakfast Program, and annual major event in Birmingham which brings members of the white and Black communities together to celebrate our progress and unity.

We have lost this great freedom fighter, but he will march on wherever people struggle for freedom, peace and the human family. His music will be sung wherever people are celebrating their victories. His music will be sung in every valley and on every hill of this planet. Carlton Reese will be with us forever. He has overcome!

THE TRAGIC DEATH OF 35 MINERS IN UKRAINE ON 7 JULY 2002

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my condolences to the families and comrades of 35 Ukrainian miners who died Sunday, 7 July 2002, in a mining accident in eastern Ukraine. I also offer my condolences to the people of Ukraine who have suffered too many such tragedies in the years since independence, as a result of an aging mining sector that is in dire need of reform and modernization.

Ukraine's miners have endured turmoil for too long. Miners have been forced to work under intolerable and life-threatening conditions, in some cases without being paid for years. It is estimated Ukraine's mining industry employs about half a million people in 193 mines, mostly in the eastern region of the country. However, the mortality rate in Ukraine's coalmining industry is staggering, with five to six miners lives sacrificed for every ton of coal produced, constituting nearly 4,000 deaths in the last 11 years.

Mr. Speaker, despite the obvious threat to its citizens, Ukraine's government has resisted shutting down unsafe mines. Rather, it appears avoiding profit loss, instability from mass unemployment and lack of heating coal far outweigh the considerations for human life.

In August this year, I intend to lead a Congressional Delegation to countries surrounding the Black Sea, including Ukraine. One focus of this trip will be on the mining industry to gain a better understanding of the crisis facing Ukraine and to help alleviate the suffering of miners and their families.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 293 and 294, I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on both.

RECOGNIZING THE REDEVELOPMENT OF STAPLETON

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 12, 2002

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Forest City Stapleton, Inc., for their role in the redevelopment of the former Stapleton International Airport in Denver, Colorado.

Stapleton International Airport served as Denver's municipal airport from 1929 to 1995. After that function ended with opening of the new Denver International Airport, there was much discussion about what to do with the 7.5 square mile Stapleton property—land that